REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The paragraph beginning on page 8, line 17 was amended to correct a clerical error. Specifically, the lower end of the temperature range for curing the coating has been changed from 350°F to "450°F". Applicants respectfully note that a heating temperature below 380°F would not bring about a full cure, as evidenced by the final sentence of the aforementioned paragraph, which is located on page 9. This final sentence recites that a "coating surface temperature reaching about 380°F is indicative of a full cure." Heating the coating to a temperature below 380°F, e.g. at "350°F", could not result in a coating temperature of 380°F, which, as the aforementioned sentence implies, is at least necessary to achieve a full cure. Applicants note that the coating is exposed to heat for a limited time and, thus, it is necessary to expose the coating to a temperature of at least 450°F in order to achieve a coating surface temperature of 380 °F.

Claims 10 and 18 have been amended. Claims 1-9 have been cancelled. Thus, claims 10-18 remain in this application.

35 U.S.C. 112 Rejection

Claims 1 and 10 were rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Applicants have deleted claim 1 and have amended claim 10 to indicate clearly that the scavenger is a formaldehyde scavenger that is a polyamide. Applicants

respectfully request that the rejection of claims 1 and 10 based on Section 112 be withdrawn.

Claim 18 has also been amended to be consistent with the amended language of claim 10.

35 USC 102 Rejections

Claims 1-3, 6, 9-12, 15 and 18 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,346,181 to Allan.

Applicants have amended claim 10 to recite the step of "heating the resin and scavenger at a temperature in the range from about 450°F to about 650°F." Support for this range is found in the amended paragraph on page 9, line 3 of the application. Allan merely describes curing its urea-formaldehyde resin at room temperature and does not read on or suggest heating in the temperature range now recited in amended claim 10. As Allan does not teach or suggest all of the limitations of independent claim 10 as amended, the claim should be found allowable. Accordingly, all claims which depend therefrom should also be found allowable.

Claims 1-18 were been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,705,537 to Hartman, Jr. et al.

As previously stated herein, Applicants have amended claim to recite the step of "heating the resin and scavenger at a temperature in the range from about 450°F to about 650°F." In column 1, lines 58-61, Hartman, Jr. et al. describe heating a resole resin mixture at a temperature in the range of from about 24° to about 150°C, i.e. about 75.2°F

to about 302 °F. Applicants' temperature range is beyond Hartman, Jr. et al.'s range. As Hartman, Jr. et al. do not teach or suggest all of the limitations of independent claim 10 as amended, the claim should be found allowable. Accordingly, all claims which depend therefrom should also be found allowable.

35 USC 102 Rejection

Claims 7, 8, 16 and 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Allan in view of Hartman, Jr. et al.

Applicants respectfully submit that claims 16 and 17, which are pending in the application, are allowable as they depend from allowable amended claim 10.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdrawal the 102(b) and 103(a) rejections based on Allan and Hartman, Jr. et al. Applicants respectfully submit that claims 10-18 are believed to be in condition for allowance and an early notice to such effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

9/20/04
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